

4-16-02 DB  
*[Signature]*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Antonio L. P. Rotondaro

Docket No: TI-31133

Serial No: To be Assigned

Examiner: TBD

Conf. No: To be Assigned

Art Unit: TBD

Filed: 11/01/2001

For: METHOD TO IMPROVE THE UNIFORMITY AND REDUCE THE SURFACE ROUGHNESS  
OF THE SILICON DIELECTRIC INTERFACE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

"EXPRESS MAIL" Mailing Label No. EL645458852US.  
I hereby certify that the above correspondence is being  
deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient  
postage for "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"  
service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to: Assistant  
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on  
11-1-01.

*Ann Trent*  
Ann Trent

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

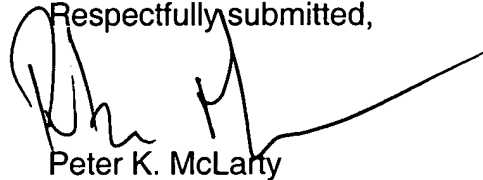
Prior to the examination of the above identified application, please amend the  
specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

*ay* --This application claims priority under 35 USC § 119(e)(1) of provisional  
application Serial No. 60/247,408, filed November 10, 2000.--

Should the Examiner have any comments or suggestions concerning this  
application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in  
order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter K. McLarty  
Agent for Applicant  
Reg. No. 44,923

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